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INTELLFAX 17

CLASSIFICATION [REDACTED] CONTROL US OFFICIALS ONLY

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Werneuchen airfield

25X1X

25X1A

EVALUATION [REDACTED] PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED]

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 29 May 1951

25X1A

REFERENCES [REDACTED]

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) [REDACTED]

REMARKS [REDACTED]

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1. At 9:45 p.m. on 3 May 1951, about 250 armed soldiers arrived by truck at Werneuchen airfield. Approximately 500 men, including a penal company, were quartered in the barracks buildings at the field. * The soldiers of the penal camp, who wore no epaulets or other insignia, drilled with wooden sticks.
2. A total of 32 twin-engine aircraft with in-line engines and double rudder assemblies, were counted in three of the field's hangars. The planes had no identifying marks other than the Soviet star. Their upper portions were painted gray and their lower portions light blue. All of the planes were new. They were covered with a thick layer of dust and propped up. **
3. Grading work was being carried out at the field with 1,050 workers [REDACTED]. The construction supervisor said that the number of workers was to be increased to a total of 2,000 by 15 May.
4. Colonel Postnikov, (fmu), from Werder was seen at the field on 4 May. He was overheard giving instructions to the German construction supervisor. His words, translated by an interpreter, were as follows : The target date for the completion of the work at the airfield has been advanced to 1 September 1951. (3) By that date the field must be cleared and in operational condition. Concreting of the runway will start on 11 May. The supply of cement and gravel will continue in the same manner."

* [REDACTED] Comment. It is not known which unit, in addition to the penal company, is stationed at Werneuchen. No air unit is believed to be stationed there. The two bomber regiments previously stationed in Werneuchen are now located in Jueterbog-Altes Lager.

** [REDACTED] Comment. The information that 32 twin-engine aircraft are parked in three hangars has not been confirmed by other sources. According to observations by other sources, the aircraft of the two bomber regiments were transferred to Jueterbog-Altes Lager.

*** [REDACTED] Comment. Another source previously reported that the target date for the completion of the work was fixed for late August or early September 1951. See [REDACTED] Construction includes enlarging of the landing field and building of a hard surface runway 2,400 meters long. Colonel Postnikov is assigned to the construction staff of the Twenty-fourth Air Army stationed in Werder.

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